

Question 4 From your experience, who are underserved populations of individual with visual impairments? (e.g., who do you know that could benefit more from our services?)

The underserved are probably people who do not know how to ask for all that they need.

Interviewee

There were 13 comments about 5 topics.

MDs do not know about services (1)

Need an advocate (3)

No services available (4) one person commented:

A lot of the issues are not indigenous of only blind people but everyone cannot get in the city. Transportation is a terrible problem for people trying to get around, especially in the rural areas.

Other (4) Topics included the Cherokees, those who do not receive paid services or need assistive technology.

Resistance (1) One person commented:

Across all ages and seniors...ex of his father who is 92 with Macular Degeneration who cannot accept the fact that is happening to him. He refuses to accept help. Of the underserved population, 50% would be resistant.

Question 5 What do you see as the VR service needs for individuals who are blind and visually impaired who are unserved and underserved?

Question 5 has 2 parts: service needs and suggestions of how to meet the needs.

Service Needs. There were 15 comments about 6 different needs.

Access (1) to web pages.

Administrative (4) Include broaden eligibility requirements, loosen guidelines, and increase funding.

Attitude (5) Improve the attitudes of DSB personnel regarding provision of services and knowledge of blindness.

Need to know about services (2) Rural and elderly populations.